IN THE CLAIMS:

The listing of the claims is as follows:

1-48. Canceled.

49. (Currently Amended) A laminate package for an energy storage device having two terminals~~, the package being defined by a single sheet of laminate material that is folded along its length~~, the package including:

a single sheet of laminate material that is folded along its length such that said folded sheet of laminate material includes a folded edge and three opposed edges;

an inner barrier layer for defining a cavity to contain the energy storage device, the inner barrier layer having two opposed portions from between which the terminals extend from the cavity, the opposed portions being heat sealed along the three opposed edges of the folded sheet and from between which the terminals extend from the cavity;

a sealant layer being disposed intermediate the inner barrier layer and at least one of the terminals for sealing the inner barrier layer to that one of the terminals and for offering a barrier to the passage of one or more contaminants into the cavity; and

an outer barrier layer bonded to the inner barrier layer and having a metal layer wherein the terminals are aluminum and have a thickness of at least 50μm.

50-54. Canceled.

55. (Previously Presented) A package according to claim 49 wherein the sealant layer is a resin containing between about 5% and 10% ethylene acrylic acid and wherein the outer barrier layer and the inner barrier layer include a first melting point and a second melting point respectively, where the first melting point is higher than the second melting point.

56. (Previously Presented) A package according to claim 55 wherein the sealant layer contains about 6% to 9% of ethylene acrylic acid.

57-58. Canceled.

59. (Previously Presented) A package according to claim 49 wherein the outer barrier layer includes a first plastics layer bonded to the outside of the metal layer.

60. (Previously Presented) A package according to claim 59 wherein the plastics layer is polyethylene terephthalate (PET) and the plastics layer is less than 30 μm thick.

61. (Previously Presented) A package according to claim 59 wherein the outer barrier layer includes a second plastics layer bonded to the inside of the metal layer, wherein the second plastics layer is selected from the group consisting of: PET; polyamide; polyvinylidene chloride (PVdC); and polypropylene (PP) and wherein the second plastics layer is less than about 15 μm thick.

62-70. (Canceled).

71. (Currently Amended) A laminate package for an energy storage device having two terminals~~, the package being defined by a single sheet of laminate material that is folded along its length~~, the package including:

a single sheet of laminate material that is folded along its length such that said folded sheet of laminate material includes a folded edge and three opposed edges;

an inner barrier layer for defining a cavity to contain the energy storage device, the inner barrier layer having two opposed portions from between which the terminals extend from the cavity, the opposed portions being heat sealed along the three opposed edges of the folded sheet and from between which the terminals extend from the cavity;

a sealant layer being disposed intermediate the inner barrier layer and at least one of the terminals for sealing the inner barrier layer to that one of the terminals and for offering a barrier to the passage of one or more contaminants into the cavity;

an outer barrier layer bonded to the inner barrier layer and having a metal layer, the outer barrier layer including a first plastics layer bonded to the outside of the metal layer, the outer barrier layer also including a second plastics layer bonded to the inside of the metal layer, the second plastics layer being selected from the group consisting of: PET; polyamide; polyvinylidene chloride (PVdC); and polypropylene (PP); and

wherein the inner barrier layer includes a third plastics layer that is bonded to the inside of the outer barrier layer and the third plastics layer is heat sealable and is selected from the group consisting of: PVdC; and polyethylene (PE), and wherein the outer barrier layer and the inner barrier layer include a first melting point and a second melting point respectively, where the first melting point is higher than the second melting point.

72. (Previously Presented) A package according to claim 49, wherein the sealant layer contains one of: one or more maleic anhydrides; maleic acid; one or more anhydride grafted polyolefins; and one or more acid modified polyolefins and wherein the outer barrier layer and the inner barrier layer include a first melting point and a second melting point respectively, where the first melting point is higher than the second melting point.

73. (Previously Presented) A package according to claim 49, wherein the metal layer includes an aluminum sheet that is less than 20 μm thick and wherein the outer barrier layer and the inner barrier layer include a first melting point and a second melting point respectively, where the first melting point is higher than the second melting point.

74. (Previously Presented) A package according to claim 59, wherein the plastics layer is less than 40 μm thick.

75. (Previously Presented) A package according to claim 74, wherein the plastics layer is less than 30 μm thick.

76. (Previously Presented) A package according to claim 61, wherein the inner barrier layer includes a third plastics layer that is bonded to the inside of the outer barrier layer, wherein the third plastics layer is heat sealable and is selected from the group consisting of: PVdC; and polyethylene (PE) and wherein the third plastics layer is less than about 30 μm thick.

77. (Previously Presented) A package according to claim 49, wherein the outer barrier layer and the inner barrier layer include a first melting point and a second melting point respectively, where the first melting point is higher than the second melting point and wherein the outer barrier layer includes a first plastics layer bonded to the outside of the metal layer, the plastics layer being less than 30 μm thick.

78. (Canceled).